

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 SS-15

NSC-05 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 /048 W

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O R 291755Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5326

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 4387

QUITO FOR LITTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - DISPUTE WITH PERU/AMBASSADOR'S FURTHER
DISCUSSION WITH SECRETARY GENERAL GARCIA BEDOYA

REF: STATE 123743, LIMA 4339

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT STATE 123743, AND AFTER AWAITING FOREIGN MINISTER'S FOLLOW-UP CALL DURING COURSE OF DAY (LIMA 4339), I CALLED SECRETARY GENERAL GARCIA BEDOYA LATE AFTERNOON MAY 28. I SAID THAT PERUVIAN EMBASSY HAD DELIVERED A NOTE TO THE DEPARTMENT MAY 27 STATING THAT GOP IS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO CONSIDER 25 FLIGHTS FOR BRANIFF AND THAT GOP WOULD PREFER U.S. DELEGATION TO VISIT LIMA. HE EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT AMBASSADOR ARCE HAD DELIVERED SUCH A NOTE, STATING THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD NEVER INSTRUCTED ARCE TO PRESENT 25-FLIGHT PROPOSAL IN ANY FORMAL WAY AND THAT HE WOULD CHECK OUT THIS POINT.

2. PER INSTRUCTIONS, I EMPHASIZED WASHINGTON'S VIEW THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE HELD IN WASHINGTON. SECRETARY GENERAL THEN SAID THAT WHAT THE FOREIGN MIINISTRY HAS IN MIND IS A TWO-STAGE NEGOTIATION PRO-
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CESS: FIRST "AN INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION" IN LIMA,

WHICH HE EXPLAINED WOULD BE A FIRST-PHASE CONTACT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT DELEGATES TO SET THE PARAMETERS, FOLLOWED BY THE NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON. HE STRESSED THAT THE USG SHOULD NOT CONSIDER THIS IDEA AS A REJECTION OF OUR PROPOSAL BUT MERELY A VARIANT OF IT. I NOTED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE QUESTION OF 26 FREQUENCIES, THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS, SUCH AS THE 3-YEAR TERM, BRANIFF'S CONTINUED ACCESS TO BRAZIL AND WHAT PERU MAY RECEIVE IN RETURN. GARCIA BEDOYA READILY AGREED THAT THERE ARE VARIOUS ASPECTS TO THE NGOTIATIONS INCLUDING ALL THOSE I HAD MENTIONED.

3. I THEN INFORMED HIM THAT THE ONLY TIMES WHICH THE U.S. DELEGATION WOULD HAVE AVAILABLE WOULD BE THE WEEKS OF JUNE 2, JUNE 9 OR JUNE 23. HE REPLIED THAT THE PERUVIAN SIDE IS READY TO NEGOTIATE NOW AND THAT HE THOUGHT THE WEEK OF JUNE 2 WOULD BE FEASIBLE. I ALSO MADE THE SUGGESTION TO HIM THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY CONSIDER INSTRUCTING AMBASSADOR ARCE TO DISCUSS TIMING AND LOCATION OF NEGOTIATIONS ASAP WITH THE DEPARTMENT. HE SAID THEY WOULD DO SO.

4. CITING THE PUBLICITY WHICH HAD ALREADY APPEARED IN THE PERUVIAN PRESS MAY 28, I ALSO TOLD HIM THAT I HAD BEEN INTERVIEWED BY PERUVIAN REPORTER DURING A VISIT AFTERNOON OF MAY 28 TO THE NASA-SPONSORED CHILCA ROCKET-LAUNCH SITE SOUTH OF LIMA. REPORTER ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT OF "RUPTURE" IN PERUVIAN-U.S. CIVIL AIR RELATIONS. I TOLD GARCIA BEDOYA THAT I HAD REPLIED THAT I DID NOT AGREE THAT "RUPTURE" WAS A CORRECT INTERPRETATION OF WHAT HAD OCCURRED, AND NOTED THAT WHILE AIRLINE-TO-AIRLINE NEGOTIATIONS HAD NOT SUCCEEDED, BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE NOW PREPARING FOR INTER-GOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WE HOPE WILL RESOLVE THE REMAINING ISSUES. I ALSO CITED FACT THAT THE GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OF BOTH AEROPERU AND BRANIFF ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER IN REACHING AN EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT. (NOTE: MY COMMENTS WERE CARRIED STRAIGHT IN LIMA PRESS THIS MORNING.)

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5. COMMENT - RECOMMENDATION: WHILE ARCE MAY HAVE EXCEEDED SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS BY MENTIONING THE 25 FLIGHTS IN WRITING, WE PRESUME THAT ARCE WAS ASKED BY THE MINISTRY TO FLOAT THIS PARTICULAR TRIAL BALLOON TO ELICIT OUR RESPONSE. IN REGARD TO LOCATION OF NEGOTIATIONS AND TIMING, GARCIA BEDOYA MADE IT CLEAR THAT GOP WANTS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE

TIME AND IN LIMA. HOWEVER, HIS MENTION OF A TWO-PHASE NEGOTIATION PROCEDURE, FIRST IN LIMA AND THEN IN WASHINGTON, LEADS US TO CONCLUDE THAT THE GOP WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR INITIAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN LIMA.

6. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO RIDE WITH ANY WASHINGTON DECISION WITH REGARD TO LOCATION OF TALKS, I FIND MUCH TO RECOMMEND USG ACCEPTANCE OF PERUVIAN TWO-STEP FORMULA. IN ADDITION TO POSSIBLY LOWERING PROCLIVITIES FOR HISTORICS, SHORT PRELIMINARY MEETING IN LIMA WOULD SERVE TO FOCUS DECISION-MAKING POWER OF TOP GOP OFFICIALS (INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER MORALES BERMUDEZ AND AIR MINISTER GILARDI) ON KEY ISSUES WHICH ONLY THEY HAVE THE POWER TO RESOLVE. WHETHER OR NOT THESE ISSUES ARE FULLY RESOLVED BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS MOVE TO WASHINGTON, THEY WILL BE BETTER UNDERSTOOD AND PRESUMABLY BE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO FINAL RESOLUTION IN WASHINGTON WHERE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PERUVIAN NEGOTIATORS AND THEIR PRINCIPALS IN LIMA WILL BECOME PART OF THE PROBLEM. TO JUDGE BY FAIRLY REASONABLE TREATMENT OF PROBLEM IN PERUVIAN PRESS TODAY, GOP IS ENGAGED IN EFFORT TO KEEP HISTORICS DOWN.
DEAN

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